

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. CHAIRPERSON

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DLNR ANNOUNCES TEMPORARY CLOSURES FOR MAKUA BEACH, KEAWAULA SECTION OF KA'ENA POINT STATE PARK

HONOLULU – The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) announces temporary area closures at Makua Beach and the Keawaula section of Ka'ena Point State Park, starting next week.

DLNR and the Department of Health are cooperating with the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawai'i who will be conducting work in these areas as part of its Military Munitions Response Program activities to address potential munitions hazards resulting from past military training activities.

Scheduled dates for the area closures are expected as follows:

- Tuesday, February 22, through Thursday, February 24, from 7 to 10 a.m.
- Monday, February 28, through Wednesday, March 2, from 7 to 10 a.m.

During these dates, work may be done at either section of Makua Beach or Keawaula-Ka'ena Point State Park but they will not both be closed at the same time. Personnel will work first at Keawaula. When fieldwork is completed at Keawaula, it will reopen, and Makua beach will next be closed for work. The gated section of Makua Beach state park is normally closed Monday through Friday. For the latest update on the status of the beach closure the public can call DLNR public information office at 587-0320.

Makua Beach and the Keawaula section of Ka'ena Point State Park were used by the military for training, intermittently between 1930 and 1990. Historical records indicate that portions of these areas were cleared in the past; however, the Army is taking another look at the sites with today's advanced equipment to evaluate if further environmental restoration is needed.

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"We apologize for any inconvenience," said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, "but this work is an important part of the Army's commitment to cleaning up areas that may have been affected by our past use. Past, present or future—we are responsible for our actions."

Closure signs will be posted around each location and security personnel will be on site to ensure public safety. Intermittent traffic stops may occur.

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For more information news media may contact:

Deborah Ward

DLNR Public information specialist

Phone: (808) 587-0320

Stefanie Gardin

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs Office

Phone: (808) 656-3160